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| 10/091,491 | 03/07/2002 | Kwang Shin Jung | P-0339 | 9477 |

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| EXAMINER |
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HUANG, WEN WU

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2682

DATE MAILED: 09/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/091,491

Applicant(s)

JUNG, KWANG SHIN

Examiner

Wen Huang

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date #3.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-3 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Suzuki (US. 6,414,840).

Regarding claim 1, Suzuki teaches a mobile terminal, comprising:

a main body housing a circuit substrate inside (see Suzuki, fig. 1, component 2)
and having an operational button on the front surface (see Suzuki, fig. 1, component 8);
a folder rotatively connected to the main body and having a liquid screen (see Suzuki, fig. 1, components 3 and 7);

a hinge connecting unit for rotatively connecting the main body and the folder
(see Suzuki, fig. 1, components 9 and 10);

and a buffer means for absorbing a shock of a contact between the main body
and the folder when the folder is unfolded (see Suzuki, fig. 2, component 6, col. 5, lines
18-21, col. 8, line 55, and col. 9, lines 47-50).

Regarding claim 2, Suzuki also teaches the mobile terminal according to claim 1,
wherein the buffer means is a buffer member installed to a certain portion of the main
body so as to contact to a certain portion of the folder contacted to the main body when
the folder is unfolded (see Suzuki, fig. 9, col. 8, line 66).

Regarding claim 3, Suzuki further teaches the mobile terminal according to claim
2, wherein the buffer member is constructed with a first buffer member installed to the
upper central portion of the main body so as to contact to the lower central portion of
the folder when the folder is unfolded and a second buffer member respectively installed
to the both sides of the upper end of the main body so as to contact to the both sides of
the lower end of the folder (see Suzuki, fig. 10, component 25, col. 9, line 10).

Regarding claim 8, Suzuki also discloses the mobile terminal according to claim
3, wherein the first buffer member and the second buffer member are made of rubber
materials (see Suzuki, col. 8, line 55).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 4-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki as applied to claim 3 above, and further in view of Landry (US. 5,401,091).

Regarding claim 4, Suzuki teaches the mobile terminal according to claim 3.

Suzuki fails to teach that, wherein a first installation groove is formed at the upper internal corner of the main body in order to insert the first buffer member into, and a second installation groove is formed at the upper both side portions projected from the main body in order to insert the second buffer member into.

Landry teaches a mobile terminal wherein a first installation groove is formed at the upper internal corner of the main body in order to insert the first buffer member into, and a second installation groove is formed at the upper both side portions projected from the main body in order to insert the second buffer member into (see Landry, fig. 3, 4, 5a and 5b).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the mobile terminal of Suzuki with the mobile terminal of Landry in order to securely hold the buffer in place.

Regarding claim 5, Suzuki as modified by Landry also teaches the mobile terminal according to claim 4, wherein the first buffer member has the same shape as the first installation groove so as to be inserted into the first installation groove formed at the main body, and a bridging hook is formed at the internal surface of the first buffer member so as to be inserted into a fixation hole formed at the first installation groove in order to prevent the first buffer member from being detached from the first installation groove (see Landry, fig. 5a and 5b).

Regarding claim 6, Suzuki as modified by Landry also teaches the mobile terminal according to claim 4, wherein the second buffer member has the same shape as the second installation groove so as to be inserted into the second installation groove, and a bridging hook is formed at the internal surface of the second buffer member so as to be inserted into a fixation hole formed at the second installation groove in order to prevent the second buffer member from being detached from the second installation groove (see Landry, fig. 5a and 5b).

Regarding claim 7, Suzuki as modified by Landry also discloses the mobile terminal according to claim 4, wherein the first buffer member having a certain width is projected from the first installation groove, and the second buffer member having a certain width is projected from the second installation groove (see Suzuki, fig. 8, component 6 and see Landry, fig. 3, component 14).

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Claims 9-12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshiharu (JP 06-224816) in view of Tanaka et al (US D440,955).

Regarding claim 9, Yoshiharu teaches a mobile terminal, comprising:

a main body housing a circuit substrate inside and an operational button (see Yoshiharu, drawing 1, component 2);

a hinge connecting unit for rotatively connecting the main body and the folder (see Yoshiharu, drawing 1, component 1); and

a buffer means for absorbing a shock of a contact between the main body and the folder when the folder is folded (see Yoshiharu, drawing 1, component 10).

Yoshiharu fails to teach that comprising a folder rotatively connected to the main body and having a liquid screen.

Tanaka et al teach a mobile terminal comprising a folder rotatively connected to the main body and having a liquid screen (see Tanaka et al, fig. 1).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the mobile terminal of Yoshiharu with the mobile terminal of Tanaka et al in order to allow users to see the number of dialing or to display incoming calls.

Regarding claim 10, Yoshiharu as modified by Tanaka et al teaches the mobile terminal according to claim 9, wherein the buffer means is a third buffer member

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installed to the upper front surface of the folder in order to absorb a shock by contacting to a certain side of the main body when the folder is folded (see Tanaka et al, fig. 1).

Regarding claim 11, Yoshiharu as modified by Tanaka et al teaches the mobile terminal according to claim 9, wherein the buffer means is a fourth buffer member formed at the lower front surface of the main body in order to absorb a shock by contacting to a certain side of the folder when the folder is folded (see Tanaka et al, fig. 1).

Regarding claim 12, Yoshiharu as modified by Tanaka et al also teaches the mobile terminal according to claim 9, wherein the buffer means is constructed with a third buffer member installed to the folder and a fourth buffer member installed to the main body which are contacted each other in folding of the folder (see Tanaka et al, fig. 1).

Regarding claim 14, Yoshiharu as modified by Tanaka et al teaches a mobile terminal, comprising:

a main body housing a circuit substrate inside and having an operational button (see Yoshiharu, drawing 1, component 2);

a folder rotatively connected to the main body and having a liquid screen (see Tanaka et al, fig. 1);

a hinge connecting unit for rotatively connecting the main body and the folder (see Yoshiharu, drawing 1, component 1);

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a first buffer means for absorbing a shock of a contact between the main body and the folder when the folder is unfolded (see Yoshiharu, drawing 1, component 9); and

a second buffer means for absorbing a shock of a contact between the main body and the folder when the folder is folded (see Yoshiharu, drawing 1, component 10).

Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshiharu and Tanaka et al as applied to claim 9 above, and further in view of Suzuki.

Yoshiharu as modified by Tanaka et al teaches the mobile terminal according to claim 9.

Yoshiharu as modified by Tanaka et al fails to teach that wherein the buffer means is made of rubber materials.

Suzuki teaches a mobile terminal wherein the buffer means is made of rubber materials (see Suzuki, col. 8, line 55).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the mobile terminal of Yoshiharu as modified by Tanaka et al with the mobile terminal of Suzuki in order to allow the buffers effectively absorbing shock and impact.

Claims 15-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshiharu in view of Shuichi (JP 11-112629).

Regarding claim 15, Yoshiharu teaches a mobile terminal including a main body housing a circuit substrate inside and having an operational button (see Yoshiharu, drawing 1, component 2) and a flip rotatively connected to the main body and covering the operational button of the main body (see Yoshiharu, drawing 1, component 3), a mobile terminal, comprising: a buffer means installed to contact portions of the flip and the main body (see Yoshiharu, drawing 1, components 9 and 10).

Yoshiharu fails to teach a mobile terminal including a main body housing a liquid screen on the front surface.

Shuichi teach a mobile terminal including a main body housing a liquid screen on the front surface (see Shuichi, drawing 2, component 16)

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the mobile terminal of Yoshiharu with the mobile terminal of Shuichi in order to allow users to view the dialing numbers and the mobile terminal to display incoming calls.

Regarding claim 16, Yoshiharu as modified by Shuichi also teaches the mobile terminal according to claim 15, wherein the buffer means is a buffer member installed to the internal surface of the flip (see Shuichi, drawing 2, components 21 and 22).

Regarding claim 17, Yoshiharu as modified by Shuichi further teaches the mobile terminal according to claim 15, wherein the buffer means is a buffer member installed to the front surface of the main body (see Yoshiharu, drawing 1, component 10).

Regarding claim 18, Yoshiharu as modified by Shuichi also discloses the mobile terminal according to claim 15, wherein the buffer means is a buffer member respectively installed to the internal surface of the flip (see Shuichi, drawing 2, components 21 and 22) and the front surface of the main body (see Yoshiharu, drawing 1, component 10).

Regarding claim 19, Yoshiharu as modified by Shuichi also teaches the mobile terminal according to claim 15, wherein the buffer means is made of rubber materials (see Shuichi, Detailed Description, paragraph 17).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wen Huang whose telephone number is (703) 305-6285. The examiner can normally be reached on 10am - 6pm.

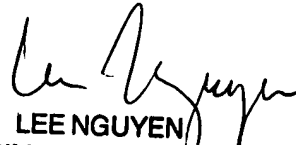
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivian Chin can be reached on (703) 308-6739. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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PRIMARY EXAMINER